Washington, DC - U.S. Representative John Hall (D-NY19), Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, released the following statement today in response to the ceiling collapse at the Montrose VA hospital:

"The VA's own reports have highlighted the need for more funding for maintenance at VA facilities, but this Administration has failed to provide that money. To prevent incidents like this one, the House recently passed a VA funding bill that includes \$4.1 billion for maintenance and repair of VA hospitals, a 13% increase from last year's funding level. Veterans deserve to know that they will be cared for and their safety protected.

This collapse also highlights the need to complete the CARES process. Our veterans deserve new, modern medical facilities and the community needs to know how the VA intends to use the Montrose campus to help veterans. Further, we must know what the VA's plans are to update and repair the underused buildings at Montrose." Hall will visit the Montrose hospital tomorrow, Friday July 6th, from 11:00 am – 12:00 pm to tour the facility and discuss needed maintenance upgrades.